GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3293
ANSWERED ON:15.04.2002
HUNTING OF BUSTARD QUAIL
SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Bustard Quail (Bater), a protected species under Schedule IV of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, is not only being sold in large numbers in Chandrapur (Maharashtra) but also is being served in many restaurants in the area openly;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the outcome of the investigation done in the matter, if any; and

(d) the fresh steps taken by the Government to protect the wild variety of this bird from being hunted under the guise of hybrid variety?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a),(b)&(c) A report was sought from the Chief Wildlife Warden, Maharashtra regarding the complaints of Bustard Quail being served in restaurants at Chandrapur, Maharashtra. The report reveals that no wild quails are being served in the restaurants. Restaurants are serving only Japanese Quail bred in captivity by a breeding farm licenced under the Wild Life (Protection) Act..

(d) Action taken and proposed to be taken to protect the Bustard Quail against illegal hunting include:

1. A strict watch and vigilance on markets, restaurants and other likely places of trade in birds.

2. A strict watch on traditional trappers and other poachers.

3. Educating the protection and other field staff about the difference between the Japanese quails and wild quails.

4. Keeping a watch on the farms licensed to deal in Japanese quails.